

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4207

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5784

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, US

SUBJ: DRC MEETING OCTOBER 23: ANY OTHER BUSINESS - US AND
TURKISH RESPONSES TO DPQ(75)

REF: STATE 222694 DTG 181820Z SEP 75

1. AT DRC MEETING OCTOBER 23 UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, DRC CHAIRMAN (HUMPHREYS) STATED THAT US AND TURKEY HAD STILL NOT PROVIDED REPLIES TO 1975 DEFENSE PLANNING QUESTIONNAIRE. HE REMINDED US REP (BADER) AND TURKISH REP (TOPUR) THAT ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE, WHICH PROVIDE THE BASIC DATA FOR CONDUCT OF THE FALL DEFENSE REVIEW, WERE DUE JULY 31. THIS DUE DATE GAVE ALLIES LITTLE LESS THAN FOUR MONTHS TO CONDUCT DEFENSE REVIEW; THREE OF THESE FOUR MONTHS HAVE NOW PASSED. HUMPHREYS SAID THAT LATENESS OF US AND TURKISH REPLIES DID NOT MAKE IT EASY FOR IS AND NMAS TO DISCHARGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THE DEFENSE REVIEW, MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO ASSESS ALLIANCE PLANS AS AN INTEGRATED WHOLE, AND UNDERMINED THE CREDIBILITY AND UTILITY OF THE DEFENSE REVIEW ITSELF. HE REMARKED THAT IT WAS PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE THE OVERDUE REPLIES INVOLVED THE COUNTRY THAT CONTRIBUTES THE MOST TO THE ALLIANCE'S COLLECTIVE DEFENSE AND ANOTHER COUNTRY THAT RECEIVES GREAT BENEFITS FROM ALLIANCE DEFENSE COOPERATION. HE ASKED THE US AND TURKISH REPS WHETHER THEY HAD ANY NEWS ON THE STATUS
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OF THEIR DPQ RESPONSES OR WHETHER THEIR COUNTRIES PROPOSED NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFENSE REVIEW PROCESS THIS YEAR.

2. US REP RESPONDED THAT THE UNITED STATES REGRETTED THE

PROBLEMS ITS LATE REPLY POSED TO THE IS, NMAS AND ITS ALLIES. HE STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE US APPROVAL PROCESS WAS UNFORTUNATELY TIME CONSUMING, IT DID NOT DIMINISH THE IMPORTANCE THE US ATTACHED TO THE REPLY. HE SAID HE COULD NOT GIVE AN EXPECTED RELEASE DATE. HE SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT THE SUBSTANCE AND SPIRIT OF CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS TO WASHINGTON.

3. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION FOLLOWING DRC MEETING, MEMBER OF IS STRESSED TO BADER THAT ALTHOUGH THE LATENESS OF US REPLY WOULD MAKE THOROUGH ANALYSIS OF US DEFENSE PLANS DIFFICULT, MORE SERIOUS ASPECT OF TARDINESS WAS THAT US REPLY IS SO SIGNIFICANT TO THE DEFENSE REVIEW THAT ITS ABSENCE PREVENTED COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF NATO INTEGRATED DEFENSE PLANNING AS A WHOLE. HE ASKED IF THE UNITED STATES COULD CONSIDER MAKING SELECTED PORTIONS OF DPQ(75) RESPONSE AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY PENDING APPROVAL OF RELEASE OF COMPLETE REPLY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON VIEWS ON POSSIBILITY OF AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE TO NATO OF SELECTED PORTIONS OF DPQ(75) RESPONSE. BRUCE

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